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IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 6, 10, 12, 14-17 and 24 and add new claim 28 as follows:

1. (currently amended) A method implemented by at least one computer for encoding knowledge, comprising the steps of:

forming a network having nodes that represent semantic concepts;

associating one or more words with one or more of the nodes;

5   associating multimedia content with one or more of the nodes; and

representing relationships between the nodes as arcs between associated words and arcs between associated multimedia content;

receiving a user query for at least one semantic concept;

recursively searching the network for matching multimedia content

10 within the network related to the user query; and

creating a new multimedia presentation from the matching multimedia content within the network.

2. (original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

creating lexical relations between semantic concepts on the basis of one or more of: word forms and word meaning of associated words.

3. (original) The method of Claim 1, wherein relationships between semantic concepts and between associated content are based at least in part on audio and/or visual feature descriptor values.

4. (original) The method of Claim 3, further comprising:

extracting feature descriptors from multimedia content; and computing similarity measures between descriptor values.

5. (original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the media network knowledge is represented using the ISO MPEG-7 Description Definition Language.

6. (currently amended) A method implemented by at least one computer for searching an encoded media network knowledge representation that comprises a network having nodes that represent semantic concepts, one or more words and multimedia associated with the one or more nodes,

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5   and wherein relationships between the nodes are represented as arcs
between associated words and arcs between associated multimedia content,
the method comprising the steps of:
        accepting a query;
        matching the query to the words and multimedia content related to
10   the concepts encoded in the media network knowledge representation;
        navigating the relationship arcs of the concepts associated with
matching words and multimedia content; ~~and~~
        retrieving related concepts, words, and multimedia content from the
matched nodes or related nodes:
15   creating a new multimedia presentation from the matching related
concepts, words, and multimedia content.

        7. (original)   The method of Claim 6, further comprising:
        forming a query comprised of words; and
        matching the query words to the words encoded in the media network
knowledge representation.

        8. (original)   The method of Claim 6, further comprising:
        forming a query comprised of multimedia content; and
        matching the query content to the multimedia content encoded in the
media network knowledge representation.

        9. (previously presented)   The method of Claim 6, further
comprising:
        forming a query comprised of audio and/or visual feature descriptor
values, wherein the feature descriptor values denote proximity to the
5   semantic concepts of the nodes; and
        matching the query descriptor values to the descriptor values of the
content encoded in the media network knowledge representation.

        10. (currently amended) A computer-implemented method for browsing
an encoded media network knowledge representation that comprises a network
having nodes that represent semantic concepts, one or more words and
multimedia associated with the one or more nodes, and wherein
5   relationships between the nodes are represented as arcs between associated
words and arcs between associated multimedia content, the method
comprising the steps of:

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displaying one or more concept nodes and associated words and/or
multimedia content; ~~and~~
10   providing means for allowing a user to select related concepts for
viewing<u>;</u>
        <u>receiving a user query for at least one semantic concept;</u>
        <u>recursively searching the network for matching multimedia content</u>
<u>within the network related to the user query; and</u>
15   <u>creating a new multimedia presentation from the matching multimedia</u>
<u>content within the network.</u>

        11. (original) The method of Claim 10, further comprising:
        providing means for allowing the user to select concept nodes and
associated words and/or multimedia content for display on the basis of
specific types or values of relations to a particular concept node or
5   associated word or multimedia content.

        12. (currently amended) A method implemented by at least one
computer for summarizing an encoded media network knowledge representation
that comprises a network having nodes that represent semantic concepts,
one or more words and multimedia associated with the one or more nodes,
5   and wherein relationships between the nodes are represented as arcs
between associated words and arcs between associated multimedia content,
the method comprising the steps of:
        extracting a subset of nodes, relations, and words and/or multimedia
content from an encoded media network knowledge representation<u>;</u>
10   <u>receiving a user query for at least one semantic concept;</u>
        <u>recursively searching the network for matching multimedia content</u>
<u>within the network related to the user query; and</u>
        <u>creating a new multimedia presentation from the matching multimedia</u>
<u>content within the network.</u>

        13. (original) The method of Claim 12, further comprising:
        consolidating together concept nodes, relations, words, and/or
multimedia content.

        14. (currently amended) A method implemented by at least one
computer for updating an encoded media network knowledge representation

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that comprises a network having nodes that represent semantic concepts, one or more words and multimedia associated with the one or more nodes,

5   and wherein relationships between the nodes are represented as arcs between associated words and arcs between associated multimedia content, the method comprising the steps of:

adding, deleting or modifying concepts, relations, or associated words, multimedia content, or descriptors in the encoded media network

10   knowledge representation;

receiving a user query for at least one semantic concept;

. recursively searching the network for matching multimedia content within the network related to the user query; and

creating a new multimedia presentation from the matching multimedia

15   content within the network.

15. (currently amended)   A method implemented by at least one computer for querying a multimedia information repository associated with an encoded media network knowledge representation that comprises an encoded network having nodes that represent semantic concepts, one or more

5   words and multimedia associated with the one or more nodes, and wherein relationships between the nodes are represented as arcs between associated words and arcs between associated multimedia content, the method comprising the steps of:

searching the encoded media network knowledge representation;

10   retrieving words, content, and/or descriptors from the media network knowledge representation; and

searching the information repository using the retrieved words, content, and/or descriptors; and

creating a new multimedia presentation from the retrieved words,

15   content, and/or descriptors within the network.

16. (currently amended)   A method implemented by at least one computer for personalizing multimedia information in a system comprising an encoded media network knowledge representation that includes an encoded network having nodes that represent semantic concepts, one or more words

5   and multimedia associated with the one or more nodes, and wherein relationships between the nodes are represented as arcs between associated

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words and arcs between associated multimedia content, the method
comprising the steps of:

      describing the multimedia information using words or descriptors;

10   describing user preferences using words, multimedia content, and/or
descriptors;

      matching the user preferences with the descriptions of the
multimedia information; and extracting, retrieving, and/or summarizing the
matched multimedia items; and

15   <u>creating a new multimedia presentation from the matched multimedia</u>
<u>items</u>.

      17. (currently amended) A system for encoding knowledge,
comprising:

      means for forming a network having logical nodes that represent
semantic concepts;

5   means for associating one or more words with one or more of the
nodes;

      means for associating multimedia content with one or more of the
nodes; ~~and~~

      means for representing relationships between the nodes as arcs

10   between associated words and arcs between associated multimedia content<u>;</u>

      <u>means for receiving a user query for at least one semantic concept;</u>

      <u>means for recursively searching the network for matching multimedia</u>
<u>content within the network related to the user query; and</u>

      <u>means for creating a new multimedia presentation from the matching</u>

15   <u>multimedia content within the network</u>.

      18. (original) The system of claim 17, further comprising means for
searching the knowledge encoded in the network.

      19. (original) The system of claim 17, further comprising means for
browsing the knowledge encoded in the network.

      20. (original) The system of claim 17, further comprising means for
updating the knowledge encoded in the network.

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21. (original) The system of claim 17, further comprising means for summarizing the knowledge encoded in the network.

22. (original) The system of claim 17, further comprising means for querying a multimedia information repository associated with the knowledge encoded in the network.

23. (original) The system of claim 17, further comprising means for personalizing the knowledge encoded in the network for a particular user.

24. (currently amended) A computer program product in a computer readable medium for use for encoding knowledge, the computer program product comprising:
     first instructions for forming a network having logical nodes that
5   represent semantic concepts;
     second instructions for associating one or more words with one or more of the nodes;
     third instructions for associating multimedia content with one or more of the nodes; ~~and~~
10   fourth instructions for representing relationships between the nodes as arcs between associated words and arcs between associated multimedia content;
     <u>fifth instructions for receiving a user query for at least one semantic concept;</u>
15   <u>sixth instructions for recursively searching the network for matching multimedia content within the network related to the user query; and</u>
     <u>seventh instructions for creating a new multimedia presentation from the matching multimedia content within the network.</u>

25. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the relationships between the nodes are based, at least in part, on the features of the multimedia content.

26. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the relationships between the nodes denote similarity of semantic concepts.

27. (canceled)

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     28. (new) The method of claim 1, further comprising displaying the new multimedia presentation on a monitor.

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